MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
21 February 1967
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN NEW YORK CITY

I. CONVENE

A regular monthly meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts was held in Mr. Bunshaft's office at 400 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. on 21 February 1967. The members met pursuant to notice, in executive session, at 10:30 a.m., with Chairman William Walton presiding.

Present were: William Walton
Gordon Bunshaft
Burnham Kelly
Theodore Roszak
Aline Saarinen
John Carl Warnecke

Staff: Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Donald B. Myer, Asst. Secretary

II. ADMINISTRATION

1. Dates of Next Meeting:

14-15 March 1967

18-19 April 1967

2. Reports authorized by the Commission of Fine Arts on 16 February 1967. Chairman Walton presented six copies of each of the two reports to Mrs. Johnson and her Committee for a More Beautiful Capital.

The Appearance of Parking - Washington, D.C., by
Collins and DuTot

Report to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts on the
Environmental Design of Streets in Washington, by
Cambridge Seven Associates, Inc.

Additional copies in the Commission's office are available on request.

Reviews of the presentation and reports, published by The Evening Star and Washington Post on 17 February 1967 are submitted as EXHIBITS A^1 and A^2.

III. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

The Secretary presented and reviewed material for the following projects.

1. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service

a. Labor Department Building - Revised Design of Landscaping by Lawrence Halprin, Landscape Architect, for site at 2nd Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

The drawings showed a general plan for landscaping, treatment of court areas and paving pattern. Brick paving in a pattern repeating the same rhythm of the structural bays was planned for most areas. The Constitution Avenue entrance was modified according to the Commission's previous suggestion to include both formal pedestrian and auto circulation. The pedestrian entrance had been more or less overlooked in the earlier schemes. The handling of the entire plan appeared to have been well studied and the Commission approved the design as presented. Further details of the design will be submitted as they are developed.

The Commission's approval was forwarded to General Services Administration. EXHIBIT B

b. Development of West Executive Avenue by Nicholas Satterlee and Associates, architects, for site west of the White House.

Drawings showed a low office wing connecting the West Wing of the White House to the Executive Office Building and bisecting West Executive Avenue. The site plan provided parking for 65 cars and 6 TV vans, and a loading ramp for the Executive Office Building. With one floor exposed and two floors below grade, the low structure would have a roof terrace. The architectural character of the building was a fairly close approximation of the West Wing with the exception of slightly larger glass areas.

Chairman Walton discussed the real need for a private west entrance to the White House, additional office space, and parking areas. He and Mr. Warnecke were surprised that no underground parking was included in the scheme.

The Commission was sympathetic to these needs but thought that further study was required. The members felt that a scheme which did not bisect West Executive Avenue would be more suitable. They questioned the concept of including office space in the connecting structure.

Mr. Leonard Hunter of the General Services Administration was notified of the Commission's disapproval.

c. Courthouse & FOB, Harrisburg, Pa. - Selection of sculptor for a carved marble eagle to be located on exterior of the building. Biographical information and photographs of the work of Theodore Barbarossa, Frank C. Gaylord, and John Terkin were reviewed.

The Commission disapproved the above artists and requested General Services Administration to have the architect consider other sculptors. EXHIBIT C

d. Court of Claims and FOB 7 - Selection of Theodore Roszak, sculptor, to design a pair of bronze fountains for the courtyards adjacent to the Court of Claims and Federal Office Building No. 7. (Mr. Roszak absented himself from the meeting).

Mr. Warnecke, architect for the Court of Claims and FOB 7, described the plan, which would have a simple bronze urn-shaped fountain centered in a pool approximately 24' in diameter. He stated that the final details weren't complete and that the materials for the pool itself had not been selected. The Commission will review the final design and samples of material in the future.

The Commission's approval of Mr. Roszak, as sculptor for this project, and of the concept of the design was forwarded to General Services Administration. EXHIBIT D

2. District of Columbia Government, Department of Buildings and Grounds

a. Blair-Ludlow School - Revised Design by Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, architects, for a site at 7th and G Streets, N.E. Seven drawings and a model were reviewed.

A previously approved design was revised to meet the requirements of a smaller site, which had come about because of a neighborhood protest on the large number of houses which had to be razed. The modifications were largely confined to a rearrangement of play areas, parking and auto circulation, with the building design basically unchanged from the original scheme.

The Commission approved the revised designs, but regreted the decision to reduce the size of the site which now appeared to be crowded and inadequate.

The Commission's approval was forwarded to the Department of Buildings and Grounds with a statement commending the architect on the quality of his design. EXHIBIT E

b. School for the Mentally Retarded Children - Proposed Design by Chapman and Miller, architects, for a site at Fort Totten Drive and Gallatin Streets, N.E. - Four drawings and a model were submitted.

The program differed from that of a conventional school in several respects - principally the age span of the children - preschool through 18, and the very small size groups with which the teachers work.

The members thought the architect's solution particularly well suited to such a program. The plan was broken up into a series of small spaces, both indoor and out, that would nicely accommodate the variety of activities, and yet the organization still retained a clarity that worked well architecturally and made the building functional and easy to understand.

The resulting massing, courtyards and planting also lent a human scale to the design, giving it a distinctly non-institutional character. The Commission approved what they thought was a highly commendable design. EXHIBIT F

c. Takoma Elementary School - Proposed Design by Fry and Welch, architects, for a site at Highland Avenue and Piney Branch Road, N.W.

The Commission felt the proposed design, a fairly conventional parti for an elementary school, would be acceptable if some of the details on the elevations could be simplified. The staff was asked to assist the architect by going over with him personally the points raised by Commission members. No further submission was requested. EXHIBIT G

d. Swimming Pool at Upshur Street - Proposed Design by Victor Smolen, architect, for a site at 14th Street and Arkansas Avenue, N.W.

The members found the plan acceptable but questioned the arched openings and roof design, which they thought somewhat heavy and exagerated. They recommended that further study be given to these features and stressed simplification and the need for good detailing.

The Commission's approval and recommendations were forwarded to the Department of Buildings and Grounds. EXHIBIT H

3. National Institutes of Health

Pepco Station - Proposed Design by Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon, architects, for a site on the campus of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Three drawings and a model were submitted.

The Commission thought the design fitted in well with other buildings recently approved for the National Institutes of Health and approved the proposal. They asked that the architect reconsider one or two details of the bay spacings, but did not feel this was of any major consequence, just a matter of choice.

The Commission's approval was forwarded to National Institutes of Health. EXHIBIT I

4. National Park Service, Department of the Interior

a. Landscaping of Columbia Island - Cancelled.

Mr. John Woodbridge, architect, presented the following two projects. Mr. Bunshaft withdrew.

b. Proposed Landscaping of Ellipse by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, architects.

Mr. Woodbridge presented the landscape plan which showed pedestrian/auto circulation patterns for the entire area. The tree planting was reinforced, the existing system of sidewalks simplified and a 2000 car underground parking proposed for the center panel, with approaches from 15th and 17th Streets. The Commission stressed the unique beauty of the Ellipse as it presently is and stated flatly that any new plan should rely on reinforcement of existing conditions, retaining the open, uncluttered green at all costs.

The Commission endorsed the general approach of this plan and will review details as they are developed.

The Commission's approval, in general, was forwarded to the National Park Service. EXHIBIT J

c. General Meade Memorial (added)

Mr. Woodbridge discussed the relocation of this Memorial to permit construction of a reflecting pool at the east end of the Mall. The National Park Service proposed that it be located west of the original site in an existing tree panel on the Mall. The concept of eventually having a row of memorials along the Mall was questioned by the members.

The Commission was in favor of relocating the Memorial but took the matter under advisement until they can inspect the site.

5. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

a. Medal Commemorating Twenty-fifth Anniversary of Naval Construction Battalions (Seabees)

b. Medal Commemorating One-hundredth Anniversary of Navy Civil Engineers Corps (CEC)

The medal was designed by Felix W. de Weldon. The Commission considered the design too complicated, with too many elements, and recommended that the medal be simplified.

The Commission's disapproval was forwarded to the Chesapeake Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. EXHIBIT K

c. Alaska Centennial Medal - Proposed Design. Cancelled.

6. District of Columbia Government, Department of Licenses and Inspections

a. Shipstead-Luce Act

(1) Watergate Development, Stage III, designed by Luigi Moretti, Italian architect, represented by Corning, Moore, Elmore and Fischer, local architects for the site on Virginia Avenue.

The plan submitted during the January meeting had increased the density of the balconies. The Commission disapproved it and requested that a previously approved scheme be developed. The revised plan presented during this meeting had developed the original scheme and was approved. To gain more space, the building was made 8 feet wider but would not intrude into public space. The members felt that the increased width would not be apparent and had no objection to this plan.

The Commission's approval was forwarded to the Department of Licenses and Inspections.

(2) John Hancock Building, designed by Edmond Dreyfuss, architect, for a site at 412-12th Street, N.W. Four samples of exterior material were submitted.

The Commission selected the darkest pre-cast concrete sample - Schokcrete #12924 for the exterior material.

The Department of Licenses and Inspections was informed of the Commission's choice.

b. Old Georgetown Act

Georgetown University

Child Diagnostic Center and Dental Clinic, designed by Mariani and Associates, architects for 3800 Reservoir Road, N.W. Four drawings were submitted.

The Commission approved the general development of this scheme which was consistent with previous recommendations.

The Commission's approval was forwarded to the Department of Licenses and Inspections.

IV. LEGISLATION

1. H.R. 2321-1/16/67-Mr. Multer-90thC

To provide for the establishment of a municipal arts council represen-

tative of local nonprofit organizations and institutions, including educational organizations and institutions in the District of Columbia with active programs in the arts, to set aside for such local cultural activities 1 mill out of each $1 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes." Exhibit L

The Commission did not favor the enactment of this legislation. The members questioned the jurisdictional duplication implied therein, and felt further study was necessary.

2. H.R. 1286-1/10/67-Mr. Springer-90thC

To provide for the preservation of buildings in the Nation's Capital which are of historic and cultural importance, to provide that the Commission of Fine Arts shall report to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia regarding such buildings, and for other purposes." Exhibit M

The Commission favored the general purpose of this legislation, but requested the staff to study it in greater detail for action at a later time.

V. GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Marriott Key Bridge Motor Hotel, Rosslyn, Va.

The Commission discussed the reported plans to increase the height of this building and to raise the existing sign on top of it. The members questioned the appropriateness of these plans. The Chairman and staff will study the matter further.

2. Dulles International Airport

Mrs. Saarinen commented on plans to build a hotel at Dulles International Airport. She expressed concern over the relationship of the proposed hotel to the main terminal building. The Commission felt that the FAA should know of the Commission's concern.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

WASHINGTON STAR FEB 17 19

Street Beautification Plan Would Polish L'Enfant Work

By ISABELLE SHELTON
Star Staff Writer

An extensive plan for improving the appearance of Washington's streets, avenues and circles, pointing up L'Enfant's original classical design, was presented yesterday to the First Lady's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital.

The plan was presented at the White House by William Walton, chairman of the Fine Arts Commission, which ordered the study and has already approved its recommendations.

A second commission-approved report, also presented to the First Lady's committee yesterday by Walton, calls for screening of the city's many surface parking lots, suggesting several ways.

The two studies "deal with what might be termed the more superficial aspects of Washington," Walton told the committee.

"In other words, they do not deal with the causes of ugliness, but do present suggestions on how the city's appearance can be upgraded rather immediately without vast expenditures."

L'Enfant's Work Praised

The first study, Walton noted, dealing with L'Enfant's original design, "is so good that it only needs to be made apparent."

L'Enfant's plan "has become neutralized" over the years, and is "never really apparent to people on the ground," said the report, which was prepared for the commission by Cambridge Seven Associates, Inc., of Cambridge, Mass., and New York City.

This can be rectified, the report suggests, "by exaggerating and contrasting" the avenues and circles, for example, so that the entire city structure will become more legible to people."

One way to accentuate the avenues, thus differentiating them from streets, the report suggests, would be to plant them with long rows of trees. This would have the additional advantage of helping "to reinforce the existing tree-lined character of Washington," the report notes.

Other suggestions for highlighting the avenues include installing lines of flags, special lights, or colored median strips.

The city's circles, which "are intended to be important focal and orientational elements," could be highlighted in the same way, the report suggests, with lights seeming especially appropriate.

Principally with 15 million tourists who annually visit Washington in mind, but also with a desire to make the city more livable for its citizens, the report also calls for a drastic reduction and simplification in the number and kinds of directional signs that now line the city's streets.

One solution, it suggests, is construction of one "simple vertical signal element" for a street corner, which would contain traffic signals, light, the name of the street, and essential directions for drivers.

Sign Colors by Quadrants

"Color coding" of street signs to identify each quadrant of the city also was proposed. All signs in the Northeast sector might be blue, for instance, and all signs in Northwest might be red.

Commercial signs in business areas would be controlled by erection of uniformly-lettered signs, the report suggested, to hang under the walkway canopy in front of each store. A sign would read simply: "Shoes," "Rugs," "Drugs," "Eat," etc.

The report concludes with a strong recommendation that a staff be set up to assist the Fine Arts Commission review and coordinate design proposals, and to oversee "all departments concerned with the location of elements" in the street.

Parking Problem Acute Here

The parking lot study, prepared for the Fine Arts Commission by the firm of Collins & Dulot, landscape artists, notes that Washington has "one of the most acute parking problems in the United States."

One of the biggest problems with parking lots, the study says, is that many are temporary, and owners do not want to spend much money to improve their appearances.

The "simplest form of landscape treatment is to plant trees," which provide shade, soften the vast expanse as seen from the ground, and help to screen the "unsightly view" from tall buildings, the report says.

For maximum screening of the parking lots, the report recommends construction of a brick or other suitable masonry wall, with a minimum height of six feet. "In commercial areas, a narrow band of small shops would both screen the parking and provide shopping continuity," it adds.

DISTRIBUTE TO MEMBERS

Exhibit A

Arts Board Offers Plan To Rid City of Eyesores

WASHINGTON POST
FEB 17 1967

By Paul Richard
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Commission of Fine Arts yesterday released plans for a city-wide attack on what it secs as the chaotic jumble of parking lots, traffic signs and miscellaneous sidewalk furniture now littering the streets and avenues of Washington.

The Commission's recommendations were included in two technical reports presented at a White House ceremony to the First Lady's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital.

Suggestions contained in the two reports range from a general master plan that could guide the future planting, lighting and paving of all of Washington's streets, to detailed proposals for specific legal controls aimed at concealing and beautifying the hundreds of parking lots throughout the city.

The first of the two reports, which reads like a "how-to-do-it" guide for parking lot operators, contains plans for a variety of inexpensive designs for landscaping and screening lots in residential and commercial areas.

Prepared by the landscape architecture firm of Collins & Dutot, the report suggests minimizing the unbroken expanses of large parking lots by planting trees at regular intetrvals throughout the lots. It also urges surrounding the lots with walls, hedges, and earth mounds that would not only screen the lots, but would also help restore the sense of enclosure provided by rows of buildings.

The report also urges that parking lot licenses be granted only upon "the proper execution and maintenance of the required site improvements and planting."

The Commission's second report is far more general. Prepared by Cambridge 7 Associates, of Cambridge, Mass., it contains no specific designs, but instead outlines a new approach for coordinating and ordering the paving, planting, lighting and "furnishing" of the city's streets.

According to Fine Arts Commission Chairman William Walton, the street study begins with the assumption that "L'Enfant's basic plan for Washington is so good and so strong, that our only real problem is to make it apparent from the ground."

To make the city's structure understandable at street level, the reports suggests "exaggerating and contrasting" the different elements of the L'Enfant plan.

The basic grid of Washington's number and letter streets, the study suggests, should be treated quite differently from the broad monumental avenues that crisscross the city. The paving materials, types of planting, even lamp posts, used on the diagonal avenues should be clearly differentiated from those used on the smaller grid streets, the report said.

Similar coordinated designs should be developed for the landscaping, illumination and furnishing of the small triangles and formal circles that mark the intersections of the grid streets and diagonal avenues, the report suggests.

A row of closely placed lamp posts surrounding, for instance, Dupont Circle, would serve to make the special character and shape of the circle immediately apparent to the passer-by.

It is only when a decision has been made on the large-scale design of the city's major elements, that it will be possible to begin a coordinated attack on the design of the fire plugs, mail boxes, trash cans and sidewalks.

The Commission's report contends that once the designers in the District Building, in the Bureau of Public Roads, in the Post Office Department and in all the other agencies that furnish the city streets have some idea of how a street should look, they will then be able to coordinate their selection of designs for lamp posts, mail boxes and trash cans and thus reinforce—rather than fragment — the special elements of the L'Enfant plan.

Washington, the report concludes, "is not a city in which one has to contrive an order. The order exists in its unique and clear plan. The responsibility now is to make it apparent."

DISTRIBUTE TO MEMBERS

Exhibit A2

28 February 1967

Dear Mr. Knott:

Facade studies and site plan for the Labor Department Building presented at both our January and February meetings have been approved by the Commission. Progress continues to be very encouraging.

The only portion of the design which remains to be approved, according to our records, is the north elevation, especially those areas over the tunnel portals and the area on the second floor enclosing the library. We would also like to see samples of material.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Lawson B. Knott, Jr.
Administrator
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit B

2 March 1967

Dear Mr. Knott:

At its meeting on February 21st the Commission of Fine Arts considered the selection of artists for a commission involving the Courthouse and Federal Office Building in Harrisburg, Pa.

The Commission still favors the selection of an artist more representative of the younger generation of sculptors. We explained this in our letter of November 29, 1966. There is today a considerable reservoir of talent in this field and the Commission urges that the General Services Administration take advantage of it. Buildings of the Federal Government should be representative of their time in all respects including the painting, sculpture or other works of art that should be incorporated into the design.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Lawson B. Knott, Jr.
Administrator
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit C

2 March 1967

Dear Mr. Snyder:

The Commission of Fine Arts approves the selection of Theodore Roszak as sculptor for a fountain and pool to be located in FOB 7 and the Court of Claims Building adjoining Lafayette Square.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. J. Rowland Snyder
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit D

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

WILLIAM WALTON, Chairman
GORDON BUNSHAFT — ALINE B. SAARINEN
BURNHAM KELLY — HIDEO SASAKI
THEODORE ROSZAK — JOHN CARL WARNECKE
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

1 March 1967

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON

Dear General Mathe:

This will confirm the Commission's approval of the Blair-Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School Replacement at 6th and G Streets, N.E., which was presented at our meeting on February 21st.

Both the physical aspects of the plan and the general design were well handled in the Commission's opinion. We regret, however, that the original site had to be reduced to its present size.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Brigadier General Robert E. Mathe
Engineer Commissioner
District of Columbia
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit E

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

WILLIAM WALTON, Chairman
GORDON BUNSHAFT — ALINE B. SAARINEN
BURNHAM KELLY — HIDEO SASAKI
THEODORE ROSZAK — JOHN CARL WARNECKE
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON

1 March 1967

Dear General Mathe:

This will confirm the Commission's action on the School for the Trainable Mentally Retarded at Hamilton Street and Fort Totten Drive, N.E., which was considered at our meeting on February 21st.

This is a good solution to a complicated and to some extent difficult program. The architects appear to have taken advantage of the unique elements in the program and have combined them in an imaginative and what we believe will be a highly functional way. We would like to emphasize the importance of careful detailing in this job. The many intersections, changes of level and changes in plane on the facade could be a problem if not carefully handled.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Brigadier General Robert E. Mathe
Engineer Commissioner
District of Columbia
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit J

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

WILLIAM WALTON, Chairman
GORDON BUNSHAFT
BURNHAM KELLY
THEODORE ROSZAK
ALINE B. SAARINEN
HIDEO SASAKI
JOHN CARL WARNECKE
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

1 March 1967

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON

Dear General Mathe:

This will confirm the Commission's action on the Takoma Elementary School Replacement at Piney Road and Dahlia Street, N.W. which was considered at our February 21st meeting.

The Commission thought the project was basically well designed but would like to emphasize the need for careful detailing and handling of materials in order to carry through the simplicity which characterizes this preliminary study. We would like to review the final drawings when they have been prepared.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Brigadier General Robert E. Mathe
Engineer Commissioner
District of Columbia
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit C

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

WILLIAM WALTON, Chairman
GORDON BUNSHAFT — ALINE B. SAARINEN
BURNHAM KELLY — HIDEO SASAKI
THEODORE ROSZAK — JOHN CARL WARNECKE
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON

1 March 1967

Dear General Mathe:

This will confirm the Commission's action on the Upshur Swimming Pool Design which was reviewed at our meeting on February 21st.

The Commission generally approved the project but would like to emphasize that the success of this kind of design depends to a great extent on the execution of the details. In particular the intersection between the arched louvered openings and the hipped roof must be handled with care. The Commission also thought that the thickness of the roof was somewhat overstated and possibly could be reduced. We would like to review final drawings when ready.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Brigadier General Robert E. Mathe
Engineer Commissioner
District of Columbia
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit H

1 March 1967

Dear Mr. Hansen:

This will confirm the Commission's approval of the electrical substation design for the National Institutes of Health that was considered at our February 21st meeting.

We expect, of course, that the materials used in this building will conform in character and color to other buildings recently approved by the Commission at NIH. Landscaping around this building should also be of a very simple nature and confined to grass and some informal grouping of trees. By all means keep the base of this building free of scrubby evergreens which one sees so often around industrial buildings of this type.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Chris A. Hansen
Chief, Division of Research Services
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Exhibit 9

2 March 1967

Dear Mr. Hartzog:

This will confirm the approval of the Ellipse plan that was considered at our meeting on February 21st. We probably will have more detailed comments to make in the future, but we wanted to let you know that at this stage the design seems to be moving in the right direction. The access ramps to the underground parking, the ventilation requirements and pedestrian access will all have to be studied in much more detail. The important thing is that the present plan now leaves the Ellipse essentially as it is which is unquestionably right.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr.
Director, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit J

2 March 1967

Dear Captain Bartlett:

This will confirm the Commission's action on the medal commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the SEABEES and the 100th Anniversary of the Civil Engineering Corps which was reviewed at our meeting on February 21st.

The Commission felt the medal, in particular the reverse side, contained too many elements and was cluttered and over complicated. A single element such as the CEC emblem in combination with the lettering would be much more appropriate. We hope these suggestions will be considered by the sculptor before going ahead with the final production.

By Direction of the Chairman:

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Atherton
Secretary

Captain J. V. Bartlett
Commanding Officer
Chesapeake Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20390

Exhibit K

90TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2321

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 1967

Mr. MULTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a municipal arts council representative of local nonprofit organizations and institutions, including educational organizations and institutions, in the District of Columbia with active programs in the arts, to set aside for such local cultural activities 1 mill out of each $1 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to create a Recreation Board for the District of Columbia, to define its duties, and for other purposes", approved April 29, 1942, as amended (D.C. Code, sec. 8–211), is amended by inserting

Exhibit 2

"(a)" immediately after "SECTION 1." and by
the end thereof the following:

"(b) There is hereby established in the
Columbia Reservation Board a Municipal Arts
inafter in this Act referred to as the 'Council')
be composed of persons representative of local
and institutions in the District of Columbia including
cational institutions with active programs in the
fields including music, drama, dance, literature,
and allied arts and historic preservation, graphic
arts, photography, motion pictures, radio, and
The Council shall be composed of twenty-one
pointed by the Commissioners of the District of
a term of four years, except that of the members
pointed seven shall be appointed for terms expiring
end of two years, seven for terms expiring at the
three years, and seven for terms expiring at the
years, after the date of enactment of this
bers of the Council shall serve without pay or
for such service. Persons appointed to the
persons who are recognized locally for their
or experience or interest in, one or more of the
fields. In making such appointments the
the District of Columbia shall give
recommendations as may from time to time

them by local organizations and institutions in the District of Columbia including educational institutions with active programs in the major art fields. The Council shall advise and consult with the members of the Recreation Board, the Board of Commissioners, and the Board of Education, and make recommendations to these Boards regarding existing and prospective cultural activities to be carried on in the District of Columbia."

SEC. 2. Section 4 of such Act is amended by inserting "(a)" immediately after "SEC. 4." and by adding at the end thereof the following:

"(b) In addition to the trust fund authorized by subsection (a) of this section, there shall be deposited in a special fund in the Treasury of the United States, to the credit of the Board, 1 mill out of each $1 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia. There is authorized to be appropriated to the Board each fiscal year an amount equal to the amount deposited in such special fund during the preceding fiscal year out of such tax revenue. Such appropriated amount shall also be deposited in such special fund.

"(c) All money in the special fund authorized by subsection (b) of this section shall be available to the Board to defray in part the expense of the National Symphony Orchestra, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Washington Opera Society, and other nonprofit art programs of the District of

Columbia, and programs in arts and crafts, music, drama, speech, dancing (other than social dancing), lectures, and other creative opportunities for leisure-time participation as authorized in section 3 of article II of this Act."

SEC. 3. The amendment made by the second section of this Act shall take effect on the first day of the first month which begins more than thirty days after enactment of this Act.

90TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1286

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 1967

Mr. SPRINGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia

A BILL

To provide for the preservation of buildings in the Nation's Capital which are of historic and cultural importance, to provide that the Comission of Fine Arts shall report to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia regarding such buildings, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first section and section 2 of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semipublic buildings in the Georgetown area of the National Capital", approved September 22, 1950 (64 Stat. 903, 904), are amended to read as follows:

"That in view of the provisions of the Constitution

Exhibit M

respecting the establishment of the seat of the National Government, the duties it imposed upon Congress in connection therewith, and the solicitude shown and the efforts exerted by President Washington in the planning and development of the Capital City, it is declared to be the policy of the Congress that the development of the District of Columbia should proceed along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and in order that this policy be effectuated a reasonable degree of control should be exercised over the architecture of private and public buildings in the District of Columbia.

"SEC. 2. In order to carry out the policy of the Congress set forth in the first section of this Act, promote the general welfare, and preserve and protect the places and areas possessing historical and cultural interest, or having exterior architectural features which are examples of the best types of architecture used in the National Capital in the earlier years, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, before issuing any permit for the construction, alteration, reconstruction, or razing of any building, whether public or private, within the District of Columbia shall refer the plans to the Commission of Fine Arts for a report as to the historical and cultural values involved as well as to the exterior architectural features, height, appearance, color, and

texture of the materials of exterior construction which is subject to public view from a public highway. The Commission of Fine Arts shall report promptly to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia its recommendations, including such changes, if any, as in the judgment of the Commission are necessary and desirable to preserve the historic and cultural values of the District of Columbia, but if the Commission of Fine Arts fails to submit a report on such plans within forty-five days, its approval thereof shall be assumed and a permit may be issued. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia shall take such action on such permit as in their judgment is right and proper in the circumstances."

SEC. 2. The title of such Act of September 22, 1950, is amended by striking out "Georgetown area of the".

SEC. 3. The Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semipublic buildings in certain areas of the National Capital", approved May 16, 1930 (40 U.S.C. 121), is repealed.

SEC. 4. The amendments made by this Act shall take effect thirty days after the date of its enactment.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
21 February 1967

AM
10:15

I. CONVENE, NEW YORK CITY

II. ADMINISTRATION

Dates of Next Meeting:
Executive Session: 14 March 1967, 10:15 a.m.
Open Session: 15 March 1967, 9:30 a.m.
Executive Session: 18 April 1967, 10:15 a.m.
Open Session: 19 April 1967, 9:30 a.m.

III. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

1. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service

   a. Labor Department Building - Revised Design of Landscaping

   b. Development of West Executive Avenue

   c. Courthouse & FOB, Harrisburg, Pa. - Selection of artist

   d. Court of Claims and FOB 7 - Selection of Theodore Roszak as sculptor

2. District of Columbia Government, Department of Buildings & Grounds

   a. Blair-Ludlow School - Revised Design

   b. School for the Mentally Retarded - Proposed Design

   c. Takoma Elementary School - Proposed Design

   d. Swimming Pool at Upshur Street - Proposed Design

3. National Institutes of Health

   Pepco Station - Proposed Design

4. National Park Service, Department of the Interior

   Proposed Landscaping of Ellipse

5. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

   Medal Commemorating Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Naval Construction Battalions (SEABEES) and 100th Anniversary of Navy Civil Engineers Corps (CEC)

6. D.C. Government, Department of Licenses and Inspections

a. Shipstead-Luce Act

S-L. 67-71, 2700 Virginia Avenue, N.W., 13 story apartment building, Stage 3, Building 5, Watergate Development

b. Old Georgetown Act

a. O.G. 67-133, 3800 Reservoir Road, N.W., Addition to Hospital for Childrens' Diagnostic Devel. and offices, Georgetown University

b. OG 67-134, 3900 Reservoir Road, N.W., 3-story Dental Clinic, entrance turn around and modification to existing parking lot, Georgetown University

IV. LEGISLATION

1. H.R. 2321-1/16/670Mr. Multer-90thC

To provide for the establishment of a municipal arts council representative of local nonprofit organizations and institutions, including educational organizations and institutions in the District of Columbia with active programs in the arts, to set aside for such local cultural activities 1 mill out of each $1 of tax revenue of the government of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

2. H.R. 1286-1/10/67-Mr.Springer-90thC

To provide for the preservation of buildings in the Nation's Capital which are of historic and cultural importance, to provide that the Commission of Fine Arts shall report to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia regarding such buildings, and for other purposes."